

# ARMY DISCIPLINE ENFORCED IN TOMBS AS FIGHTING WARDEN ASSUMES POST

## Iron Rule Clamped On All Prisoners By Veteran Barr

Robert Barr, square-jawed veteran of thirty years as prison keeper, today took charge of the Tombs.

Bob Barr, 54, whose hair has turned white during his regimes in several prisons, put his foot down on Tombs laxity within two hours after he had taken charge.

He declared firmly he was the new warden and that he, in that position, would not die in the manner of Peter A. Mallen, who was killed with Keeper Jeremiah Murphy, during the desperate outbreak of the slain Michael (Red) McKenna, Hyman Amberg and Robert Berg.

Barr immediately issued orders that first offenders were to be segregated from hardened criminals, and that the latter were to go under army discipline.

### New Medical Rules

He ordered that only men with open wounds be brought to the offices of Dr. Perry Lichtenstein, Tombs physician. Further, that not more than two were to be brought there at one time. The trio of dead desperadoes feigned sickness to start their illfated attempt to gain freedom.

He ordered that two guards be posted at the entrance to the gray prison. He ordered that three gates between the prisoners and Center Street be locked and be kept locked.

Warden Barr is fresh from command at Rikers Island. Narcotic addicts are confined there. He knows how to handle them. They know him as a fair, square man. They know too, that he will tolerate no laxity.

One of the unusual phases of his new position is that in December, 1897, after he had taken his civil service examinations, he was assigned to the Tombs as guard.

He has worked up from the bottom until now penologists seek his counsel.

He is married and lives at 556 2d St., Brooklyn.

While the new warden was taking hold in the Tombs, Edward J. Reilly, chief crier of General Sessions, made more startling disclosures in regard to laxity there.

Reilly examines prisoners as they come over the Bridge of Sighs from the prison for arraignment and trial.

He declares he has found hypodermic needles, screwdrivers, nail files, knives, pieces of wire, and other contraband articles on these prisoners. Where they got them after their original search at the entrance to the Tombs is not known.

Reilly adds to this information by saying that hacksaws, hammers and other large instruments have been secreted in nooks and crannies by prisoners before being led into Criminal Courts for trial. They have been found in dark corners, behind window ledges and in other places. Owners have hoped to reclaim them on the way back to their cells.

## Seek Tots' Bodies Where Storm Killed Fifteen



RUINS OF SCHOOL WRECKED BY TORNADO at La Plata, Md., were besieged yesterday by throngs of parents, relatives and friends of the fifteen children who lost their lives when the twister suddenly reduced the frame structure to so much kindling wood. The storm, which lasted only three minutes, took a terrific toll during its visit to the village, which is near Washington. Two other persons, adult negroes, were killed when their home was toppled over by the force of the violent wind.

## 15 Tots, 2 Adults Die, 24 Hurt, As Tornado Wrecks School

### 'Rose Marie' Star Owes Him \$3,112, Lawyer Complains

A writ of attachment against Desiree Ellinger, star of "Rose Marie," for \$3,112 was obtained in Supreme Court today by Vernon Newcomb, attorney, who says he was retained at \$500 a week and expenses to appear before the United States Labor Department



DESIREE ELLINGER

and secure an extension of her permit to remain in the United States.

He charges that he spent three weeks getting the extension, and that he used \$1,612 for expenses. Attached to his affidavit is a declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States made by Miss Ellinger, who in private life is Mrs. Albert Newton Stirett.

### OPERA STAR DIES

BERLIN, Nov. 10 (By U. P.).—Joseph Schwarz, a famous opera baritone, died today.

### Community Funeral Is Planned for Storm Victims

LA PLATA, MD., Nov. 10 (By U. P.).—Tiny graves were ordered dug today to receive fifteen of La Plata's school children, killed yesterday by a tornado that tore a path through the village and blew the two-room school to kindling.

Besides the ten children killed, a colored couple perished in one of four houses that the twister ripped apart. Twenty-four more children are lying injured in hospitals and others are under treatment in their homes. More deaths are feared.

### Plan Community Funeral

A community funeral probably will be held, but La Plata early today was still too bowed down by the horror of the hurricane to know what it would do in its hour of calamity. The children listed as dead were:—

Edward Bean; Mary Ellen Bowie, 7; —Burr, a girl of about 9; Henry Claggett, 11; —Gamble, boy; Lester Lundair; Andrew Jackson Clark, Jr.; Mary Alice Cooksey; Lavega Martin; Estelle Miles; Louis Swan, 11; Teresa Estelle Dean, 9; Lucille Edwards, 10; Thomas Miles, and —Tearer. The last four and Mary Ellen Bowie died in ambulances en route to hospitals in Washington. Two negro adults brought the total death list to seventeen.

### Aid Rushed to Scene

The tornado, shaking the town as though by an earthquake, cut a path across a narrow strip and toppled the school house like toothpicks. Timber was blown hundreds of feet; many children were caught beneath debris. Lavega Martin was crushed to death with a huge rafter; Lavega's sister,

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## 'Fighting Warden,' Robert Barr, Now In Post at Tombs

A man with a fighting heart and a pair of mailed fists walked into Tombs Prison today to the place left vacant by Warden Peter A. Mallen, who died with a gangster's bullet in his heart as he tried to stem an attempted jail break.

The new warden is Robert Barr, from Riker's Island, with a notable record of service. Barr took up his new duties without ceremony and made a tour of inspection, in which he overlooked nothing.

He immediately instituted a new system of protection which should decrease any chance for escape. He placed a day and night guard between the second and third set of steel gates which lead to the Center Street entrance of the Tombs.

In order to make a break now, a prisoner would have to elude two guards and open three gates, an extremely difficult undertaking.

## Two Cops Jailed For Assault on Girl in Hallway

Charged with brutal assault on a young woman after they had kept her prisoner in a hallway for more than two hours, Patrolmen Francis Blatzheim, 23, of 554 West 51st St., and Edward L. Powers, 27, of 2752 8th Ave., both attached to the West 123d Street station, were held in \$1,500 each for further hearing Saturday by Magistrate McQuade in Washington Heights Court today.

The men were arrested at 5 a. m. by Sergeant James Scanlon of the same station on complaint of Betty Blanchard, 24, of 2040 5th Avenue, where she is employed as a maid in a rooming house. She said that the patrolmen entered the building at about 2 a. m., went through the place, disturbing a man named Thurston Johnson and his wife, and finally came upon her and William Jesche, her fiancé, in a living room.

### Followed Her to Room

She testified that they told her to get her house key, followed her to her room, pretended to arrest her, and finally took her into a hallway at 40 West 125th St. Johnson, his wife and Jesche went to look for her, they said, and saw one of the men go into the hallway. When they questioned him, they said, he ordered them to go away and they did.

### Body of Woman Found in Lake

The body of a well dressed, middle aged woman was found by Arsenal police today floating in the lake at 110th Street near 5th Avenue, in Central Park.

Mrs. Bertha Drucker, of 1331 5th Ave., identified the dead woman as her mother-in-law. She could give no explanation as to the cause of death.

"She was in fine health," she said, "when she left last night to make a purchase at a neighborhood store."

### Clearing House (Official figures)

Exchanges	.....\$910,000,000
Balances	..... 115,000,000
Credit balance..	98,000,000

## Pal of Tombs Riot Bandits Held for Payroll Hold-Up

William (Dutch) Reichel, 30, of 308 East 94th St., said by police to be a pal of Michael (Red) McKenna, who killed himself after shooting up the Tombs a week ago, today is in custody of the police, who say he is the last man wanted in connection with the Reid ice cream payroll robbery last June, during which Cecil Linderman, an employee, was fatally wounded.

Reichel was arrested by Detectives Hagias and Senff late yesterday and appeared in the line-up at Police Headquarters today. Faced with information that his pals had "squealed" he steadfastly denied any connection with the robbery. Another of his pals is Peter Powers, police assert.

Powers was scheduled to make the dash for freedom with Berg, Amberg and McKenna last Wednesday, but something went wrong in the plans and he did not leave his cell.

## Machine Gun Killer Suspects Acquitted

CHICAGO, Nov. 10 (By U. P.).—Disregarding the prosecution's plea for the conviction and death penalty for "Big Joe" Saltis and "Lefty" Konell, charged with the murder of John "Mitters" Foley in a beer gang war, a jury last night acquitted both, after five hours deliberation.

## THE WEATHER

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1926



U. S. WEATHER FORECAST  
LOCAL—Cloudy and cooler today and tonight; tomorrow fair; northwest gales tonight.  
NEW YORK STATE—Cloudy on Coast and rain, changing to snow flurries in north and central portions; much colder tonight with northwest gales.